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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,651	03/11/2004	Ernest J. Jensen	926512-100248	6324
23644	7590	02/04/2008	EXAMINER	
BARNES & THORNBURG LLP P.O. BOX 2786 CHICAGO, IL 60690-2786			BERTHEAUD, PETER JOHN	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3746		
		NOTIFICATION DATE.	DELIVERY MODE	
		02/04/2008	ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patent-ch@btlaw.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/798,651	JENSEN ET AL.
	Examiner Peter J. Bertheaud	Art Unit 3746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 28 February 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/7/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ayles 3,137,216.

Ayles discloses a cylinder head arrangement comprising a bore within a housing (10, 11, 22, 25, 39) having screw threads along at least a portion of the bore (see inner bore of element 39) and said closure 35 having an internally threaded hole extending into the closure, the system comprising: a retaining cover 40 for obstructing removal of said closure 35 from said bore, the cover 40 being receivable in the bore in a position generally adjacent the closure 35 and having external threads interengageable with said screw threads of the bore (see threads between 39 and 40 in Fig. 1) such that the cover 40 is rotatable relative to the housing in a tightening direction for movement of the cover 40 into the bore toward the closure and rotatable in an opposite, loosening direction for movement of the cover 40 out from the bore away from the closure 35, the cover having a central axis of rotation (see col. 3, lines 15-19); and a locking device 44, 48 configured for being secured to the cover such that the locking device 44, 48 rotates together with the cover 40 about said central axis, the locking device 44, 48 comprising a fastener 48

receivable in said hole of the closure 40 and having external threads interengageable with threads of the hole (see Fig. 1); wherein the threads of the cover 40 and the threads of the fastener 48 are spiraled in opposite directions (although not disclosed this can be seen in Fig. 1) such that when the cover 40 rotates in the loosening direction, the fastener 48 becomes tightened in the hole of the closure 35 thereby stopping the rotation; wherein the cover 40 has right-hand threads and the fastener 48 has left-hand threads (see Fig. 1); wherein said housing 11, 39 is a pump housing and said retaining cover 40 is a pump access port cover. Ayles further discloses a central opening extending through the cover defining an internal wall along the opening (see 40); wherein the locking device 44, 48 further comprises a locking member 44 receivable in said central opening of the cover 40, the locking member 44 having a size and shape configured for engagement with the internal wall of the cover 40 for securing the locking device 44, 48 to the cover 40; wherein the locking member 44 has a polygonal shape; wherein the locking member 44 comprises a nut (see Fig. 2); wherein said fastener 48 comprises a threaded bolt extending through the nut; and wherein the bolt (48) is aligned with said central axis of rotation of the cover 40 (see Fig. 1). Ayles also discloses that the closure 35 comprises a plug having a circumferential seal 33 engageable with the bore to close the bore; wherein the bore of the housing has an internal shoulder (see periphery of element 28) and the closure 35 further comprises an annular flange 36 which engages the shoulder when the closure is at said installed position; further comprising a stop 28' for preventing rotation of the closure relative to the housing; wherein the flange 36 on the closure 35 has at least one notch 36' therein

and when the closure 35 is at said installed position, the stop 28' is received in the notch 36'.

In addition, while features of an apparatus may be recited either structurally or functionally, claims directed to an apparatus must be distinguished from the prior art in terms of structure rather than function, because apparatus claims cover what a device is, not what a device does (Hewlett-Packard Co. v. Bausch & Lomb Inc., 909 F.2d 1464, 1469, 15 USPQ2d 1525, 1528 (Fed. Cir. 1990)). Thus, if a prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use as recited in the preamble, or elsewhere in a claim, then it meets the claim. In reference to method claim 15, Aytes discloses an apparatus capable of performing a method comprising the steps of: installing a retaining cover in said bore adjacent said closure, the cover having screw threads interengageable with screw threads of the bore such that the cover is rotatable relative to the housing in a tightening direction and an opposite, loosening direction, the cover having a central axis of rotation, said step of installing comprising rotating the cover about said axis in said tightening direction; securing a locking device to the cover such that the locking device rotates together with the cover about said central axis; and threading a fastener into a threaded hole in the closure to secure the fastener to the closure, the fastener and hole of the closure having screw threads spiraled in opposite direction to the screw threads of the cover and bore such that when the cover rotates in the loosening direction, the fastener becomes tightened in the hole of the closure thereby stopping the rotation.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record, in the attached form 892, and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter J. Bertheaud whose telephone number is (571) 272-3476. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Devon Kramer can be reached on (571) 272-7118. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


PJB

DEVON C. KRAMER
PATENT EXAMINER


1/29/08